



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Peter McWalters
Commissioner

July 15, 2005

TO: Superintendents of Schools
Charter School Directors

FROM: Peter McWalters, Commissioner

SUBJECT: **Final FY 2006 Charter School Aid**

Final FY 2006 charter school entitlements based on the FY 2006 appropriations act are now available on the Rhode Island Department of Education website.

To download the data, go to www.rido.net/funding/forms and click on the entry that reads "Final FY 2006 Charter School Aid." Page 1 shows quarterly state aid to charter schools based on last year's October 1 enrollment. Page 2 shows projected mid-year adjustments for certain schools which expect to have a 10% or greater change in enrollments for the upcoming school year. Final mid-year adjustments are based on actual enrollments reported to the Department of Education on October 1, 2005 and will be reflected in the third and fourth quarter payments. Page 3 lists the quarterly aid payments to the sending district (small dollar amounts are paid in full in the first quarter). Page 4 shows the per pupil amount owed by each district for pupils sent to a charter plus the total enrollment by district used in the FY 2006 aid calculations.

This year's budget also enacted two changes that affect charter aid funding. 1). For FY 2006 aid, the minimum state share of the per pupil expense was raised to 30% making the local district contribution a maximum of 70% of the per pupil cost. This change affects only those districts which in the past had a state share contribution of less than 30%. 2). For FY 2007 aid, the basic aid entitlement will no longer be based on the October 1 enrollment count, but instead will be based on the June 30 end of the year student data submitted as of 6/30/05. This count reflects all students in a school over the course of a school year as opposed to a headcount as of a particular date, thus giving schools credit for all students enrolled during the year. The mid-year adjustment will still be based on the October 1 count because that is the only data available after the start of the current school year.

I encourage you to forward this e-mail to all interested parties including the appropriate municipal officers. Please call Celeste Bilotti at 222-4648 with any questions or for additional information, or e-mail her directly at celeste.bilotti@ride.ri.gov (*do not reply to this e-mail*).

PM/CPB/ama
cc: School Business Officials
Attachment

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